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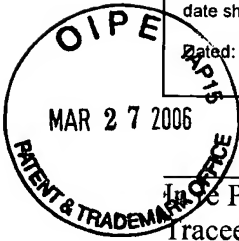
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date shown below.

Dated: March 23, 2006

Signature:

Brent E. Matthias, Reg. No. 41,974

Docket No.: 29985/01-180  
(PATENT)



**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of:  
Tracee E.J. Eidenschink

Application No.: 10/034,448

Confirmation No.: 9310

Filed: December 28, 2001

Art Unit: 3763

For: HYPOTUBE WITH IMPROVED STRAIN  
RELIEF

Examiner: Roz Maiorino

**RESPONSE TO NON-FINAL OFFICE ACTION DATED JAN. 6, 2006**

MS Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Commissioner:

In response to the non-final office action mailed on January 6, 2006, please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows:

**Amendments to the Specification** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.

**Replacement Drawing Sheets** are identified on page 11 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 12 of this paper.